schedule as approved by the Director General of Civil Aviation, Qatar Airways are authorised to operate to/from India as per following details:

Sector	Frequency per week
Doha-Mumbai *vice versa*	6
DohaThiruvananthapuram *Vice Versa*	*7*
Doha-Hyderabad *vice versa*	3

Concessional fare on Delhi-Nagpur-Raipur sector

†1957. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state-

(a) whether there is any scheme to declare special concessional fares on route for Delhi-Nagpur-Raipur where Indian Airlines is the only service providers;

(b) if so, by when, it is going to be implemented and if not, the reasons for depriving the passengers of this route from this facility; and

(c) whether any other Airlines are also interested in providing services on this route and if so, by when this service is scheduled to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPADYESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir

(b) Indian Airlines introduces promotional fares on certain domestic sectors from time to time in response to market requirements. The market considerations on flights on this sector do not justify introduction of promotional fares.

(c) No other airline has evinced interest in providing services on this route.

Hike in Airfares

1958. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether consequent to hike in the price of aviation fuel and high sales tax on fuel, domestic airlines are all set to raise passenger fares;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, what is the percentage of the proposed hike; and

(c) by when this hike is likely to be effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Fares on domestic sector are not regulated. All airlines operators are free to charge any fare based on their cost input and the competitive market environment.

Indian Airlines has increased its fare across the board by 10% on domestic sectors *w.e.f.* 10.11.2002. Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines have also increased their fares by about 10% in November, 2002.

Temporary employees in AAI

†1959. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of group '© and 'D' employees who have been kept on temporary basis in Airports Authority of India during the last three years;

(b) the period of employment of each such temporary employees whether working continuously or with break;

(c) the salary paid to each employee per month; and

(d) the details of the steps being taken by Government to fill up the posts on permanent basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) 242 number of persons in Group '© and none in Group 'D' on temporary basis and 86 persons in Group '© and 28 in Group 'D' on adhocbasis have been employed in the Airports Authority of India.

(b) All such employees have been working without any break.

(c) The appointments have been made in Group C in the pay scale of Rs. 5500-10060, Rs. 5800-10960 and Rs. 6300-12060 and in Group D in the pay scale of Rs. 4400-6920 with other allowances and perks as applicable.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.